

# **ARIJ Daily Report**

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# Israeli Violations' Activities in the oPt 21 May 2017

 $\mathbf{T}$ he daily report highlights the violations behind Israeli home demolitions and demolition threats the occupied Palestinian territory, in the confiscation and razing of lands, the uprooting and destruction of fruit trees, the expansion of settlements and erection of outposts, the brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army, the Israeli settlers against Palestinian violence civilians and properties, the erection of checkpoints, the construction of the Israeli segregation wall and the issuance of military orders for the various Israeli purposes.

*The Violations are based on reports provided by field workers and \or news sources.* 

The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for clarity.

The daily report does not necessarily reflect ARIJ's opinion.

# Brutality of the Israeli Occupation Army

• Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided a protest camp near the village of Yatta in the Southern Hebron Hills of the occupied West Bank, confiscating tents used by locals and activists attempting to restore the depopulated Palestinian community of Sarura, whose residents were expelled by Israeli forces between 1980 and 1998. The IOA raided the area without showing any military orders or providing justification for the raid and dismantlement of the "Sumud: Freedom Camp," established only a day earlier. They started pushing the activists, shouting, and intimidating everyone. They switched off the electricity generator, and left Palestinians unable to see what was happening around them. The IOA then began to rip down tents and confiscate equipment, including the generator, sound system, and data projectors used by the locals to hold educational events at the site. (Maannews 21 May 2017)

• Israeli occupation Army (IOA) carried out, without pre-notification, military drillings near Palestinian dwellings in several areas in the Jordan Valley. (WAFA 21 May 2017)

# Israeli Arrests

- Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested Muhammad Kamal Fawaghrah, 19, from Al Khader village south of Bethlehem city after raiding his family house in Al Balu' area and searching it. (WAFA 23 May 2017)
- In the village of Abu Dis in the West Bank Governorate of Jerusalem, Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Amjad Rabee and Ali Rabee after raiding their homes. (Maannews 21 May 2017)
- Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided several homes in Al Isawiya town in occupied East Jerusalem and detained five Palestinians in the town. The detainees were identified as Wassim Nayef, Ahmad Kayed Mahmoud, Adam Fadi Mustafa, Yousif Issa Mustafa, and Anas Abu Assab. (Maannews 21 May 2017)
- In the town of Shufat in occupied East Jerusalem, Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided three homes and detained Nasser Abu Khdeir, a former prisoner, Abed Saed Abu Khdeir, and Ameer Abu Khdeir. (Maannews 21 May 2017)
- In Shufat refugee camp in Jerusalem Governorate, the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the home of former prisoner Arafat Fasfous and delivered an order to his family summoning them for interrogations when Fasfous was not found at home. (Maannews 21 May 2017)
- In the Old City of Jerusalem, Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Muhammad al-Shlabi and Thaer Abu Sbeih after raiding their homes.
- In the town of Silwan in occupied East Jerusalem, clashes had erupted until late hours when the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) fired tear gas and rubber-coated steel bullets into the community and detained 20year-old Muhammad al-Abasi. (Maannews 21 May 2017)
- 22 Palestinian citizens were injured during confrontations with the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) at the northern entrance of Jericho city. The IOA fired tear gas canisters and rubber bullets at the Palestinian

youths and two Palestinians were arrested and taken for interrogation after being beaten by the IOA. (PALINFO 21 May 2017)

- Confrontations erupted between Palestinian youths and the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in al-Khader village to the south of Bethlehem city. A 7-year-old child, identified as Hassan Ahmed Issa, was transferred to a local hospital for immediate treatment after he was hit with a tear gas canister in the head. (PALINFO 21 May 2017)
- The Israeli occupation authorities issued a decision to deport Kifah Da'na, a resident of the Old City of Jerusalem, for 30 days, A house arrest for 10 days, and a payment of NIS 2000 bail as conditions for his release from the Israeli jails. (WAFA 21 May 2017)

# Israeli Settler Violence

- Clashes broke out between Palestinian young men and a group of Israeli settlers in Burin village, south of Nablus city in the occupied West Bank. The settlers, who were escorted by Israeli soldiers, hurled stones at local young men in al-Daqaqa area, east of the village and the Israeli soldiers fired stun and tear gas grenades at the young men. (WAFA 21 May 2017)
- A group of Israeli settlers stormed the eastern side of Burin town, physically assaulted a Palestinian citizen identified as Munir Qadus, and vandalized a car belonging to a human rights activist named Zakariya as-Sadda. (PALINFO 21 May 2017)
- Israeli settlers sprayed 300 Grape seedlings with pesticides in Ein Al Qassis area west of Al Khader city and destroyed them . The seedlings are owned by Muhammad Abdel Salam Salah. (WAFA 21 May 2017)
- Right-wing Israeli activists from the Betar Movement laid a "cornerstone" for the American Embassy in Jerusalem in an effort to "strengthen" US President Donald Trump ahead of his visit to Israel's capital. The activists held the ceremony at the site of the former British Allenby Compound in Jerusalem's Arnona neighborhood on a plot of land leased to the US by the Israel Lands Authority for the embassy in 1999... The activists came to the barren tract of land and hoisted American flags and a banner that said, "Cornerstone-Laying Ceremony for the US Embassy." (JPOST 21 May 2017)

#### Israeli Closures

 Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed Israeli bypass road No. 5 in Nablus Governorate and prevented traffic in both directions. (Maannews 21 May 2017)

# Other

Peace Now's annual construction report reveals a 34% increase in construction starts throughout the West Bank during 2016, in comparison to same period in 2015. During 2016 the expansion of settlements occurred through a variety of methods, including the construction of housing units and public structures – legal and illegal – the construction of a new bypass road, the approval of a new settlement, the establishment of two illegal outpost, the declaration of "state lands" and expansion of municipal jurisdictions. The trends of 2016 illustrates that while Netanyahu attempts to illustrate restraint in order to save face among the international community, on the ground construction is not only ongoing but also increasing, mainly in the most problematic areas for a future agreement. If the Israeli government is interested in a two-state solution, it must seize acting unilaterally in a way that makes the solution much more difficult to achieve.

#### Construction Starts

- 1,814 New housing units began construction, an increase of 34% to a parallel time period in the previous year (1,350 housing units).\*
- Nearly 70% (1,263 housing units) of the new construction was in settlements east of the proposed Geneva Initiative border, i.e. settlements that are likely to be evicted in a two states agreement.
- Over 26% (474 housing units) of the new construction was in areas that are east of the route of the separation barrier.
- 6% (114 housing units) of the construction was in illegal outposts.
- At least 10% (183 housing units) of the construction was illegal according to the Israeli laws applied in the occupied territories.
- The vast majority of the new construction, almost 94% (1,700 housing units), was for permanent structures, while that the remainder 6% (114 housing units) were new housing units in the shape of mobile homes both in outposts and in settlements.
- 42 new public buildings (such as schools, synagogues etc.) started to be built, alongside 23 structures for industry or agriculture.

# Advancement of Plans (Jan-Dec 2016)

- 2,657 Housing units were advanced through promotions of plans for settlements.
- Almost 60% (1,540 housing units) of the units were east of the proposed Geneva Initiative border.

- Nearly 40% (1,026 housing units) of the units were east of the route of the separation barrier.
- 580 housing units were published for validation (final approval of a plan). Of those, nearly 75% (432 housing units) were east of the border proposed by the Geneva Initiative and over 50% (293 housing units) were east of the route of the separation barrier.
- Tenders were published for 365 housing units, of which 323 in East Jerusalem and 42 in West Bank settlements (in Kiryat Arba settlement).

#### Further Significant Settlement Developments in 2016:

- Two new outposts were established in the north part of the Jordan Valley.
- Construction of a new road to bypass the Palestinian village of a-Nabi Eliyas (near Qalqiliya) began on lands confiscated from Palestinians.
- 2,342 dunams were declared as "state lands" south of Jericho.
- The Gush Etzion municipality's jurisdiction was extended in order to include a new settlement site, "Beit Al-Baraka", located apposite of Al-Aroub Refugee Camp.
- Advancement of a new settlement, Shvut Rachel East, under the pretence of a neighbourhood, deep in the West Bank.
- A new industrial area, west of Ramallah, and close to the Green Line, was approved. TO READ FULL REPORT, <u>CLICK HERE</u>.